

**USDA-FOREST SERVICE – Salmon-Challis National Forest
Salmon and Challis BLM Field Offices
CHRISTMAS TREE GUIDELINES**

Welcome to the Salmon-Challis National Forest and the Salmon and Challis BLM Field Offices. We hope this experience in cutting your holiday tree will add to the season's memories. Tags are non-refundable and must be purchased before cutting Christmas trees. Each tag costs \$5 per tree; a household may purchase two tags. A Christmas tree tag purchased at one office may be used in any area administered by the Salmon-Challis National Forest or the Salmon and Challis BLM Field Offices. In order that future generations can also have this opportunity, the Christmas tree cutter should observe the following guidelines:

1. **DO NOT CUT TREES WITHIN 300 FEET OF CAMPGROUNDS, STREAMS, LAKES, OR PONDS.**
2. Cut your tree at least 100 feet away from either side of any main road, 200 feet from U.S. Highway 93, and ¼ mile from the roadside of the Salmon River Road.
3. Make your cut below the lowest whorl or limbs. No trees over 8 inches in diameter at 4 ½ feet above the ground shall be cut. **NO TOPPING OF TREES IS ALLOWED.**
4. Place a tag around the bole of the tree before moving the tree from the cutting site. The tag must be signed and attached to the tree in such a manner that removal will destroy the tag.
5. No cutting is allowed in plantations and no cutting of lone trees where there are no other trees nearby.
6. Christmas tree cutting is **PROHIBITED** in these areas:
 - a. Lost River Ranger District: Pass Creek Narrows
 - b. Challis Ranger District: Big Hill Pine Plantation
 - c. Salmon BLM Field Office: Freeman Creek Plantation

Caution is advised on snow-covered roads; chains and/or four-wheel drive are recommended in many places.

Your tree will be in fine shape for the holidays if you keep it in a bucket of water indoors, or packed in snow outdoors and wrapped in burlap. A diagonal cut on the butt of the tree will help it absorb water. To keep your tree looking better, lasting longer, and being less of a fire hazard, keep enough water in your tree stand.

Contact the nearest [Forest Office](#)

Thank you, and enjoy the Holiday season.

*Salmon-Challis National Forest
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